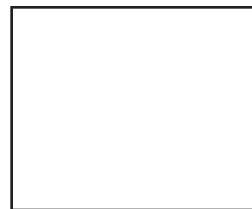



HELP THE NEEDY
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September 2012

HELP THE NEEDY TIMES

Board of Directors

Mary Gonzales

Kerri Kilgore

Tony Perry

Bob Taylor

Eileen Zytka

It Takes a Village

By Dan Weber, Volunteer Coordinator

Help the Needy (HtN) has been helping people in Teller County get back on their feet for 30 years. As an all-volunteer organization, there are many roles played to bring this service to those in need. Let me describe how these roles fit into the big picture, using August 2012, when we assisted 40 clients, to illustrate.

Interviews

The final step in assisting the client is to conduct a face-to-face interview at our Woodland Park facilities. The interview typically lasts 45 minutes. The interviewer looks for the best way to help the family recover and get back on track, consistent with our statement “a hand up” versus a handout. Assistance may be budget counseling, reference to our community resources (such as food banks or local mechanics willing to give a break on auto services), coupons to Goodwill, firewood for heating, reference to local job listings, financial assistance paying a bill or just helpful advice.

For August, the average time interviewers spent per client was 1.4 hours. The additional 40 minutes per client was for documenting the interview, consulting with other interviewers, researching potential means of assistance or contacting merchants we may be making payments to on behalf of the client.

Intake

Before the interview is scheduled, a telephone intake is done. This involves gathering the facts to verify that the client is eligible for local assistance, assessing data needed for the interview and ensuring appropriate documentation will be brought the interview. The intake process takes 30 minutes with the client; the average per client in August was 1.2 hours, with additional time required to create and update client documentation and schedule the interview.

Initial screening (administration)

If a client calls our office for assistance, the administrative person gathers initial information from the client, verifying they are local residents we are chartered to assist. Thus takes a few minutes.

In general, these are who the clients have contact with -- although there may be follow-up contacts for services such as budget counseling or firewood delivery. Note that the total time the client spent with us was ~ 1.5 hours. The total time HtN spent per client was 21.3 hours.

Interviewing, intake and a small portion of the administrative work are what the client sees. Behind the scenes are the efforts necessary to make this possible.

Grant writing to obtain the appropriate funding from other organizations to assist the clients (3.2 hours per client), and to document allocated funds as required by these grants.

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Vino & Notes



(It Takes a Village - continued from page 1)

Firewood -- a “labor of love” (1.6 hours per client) —a dedicated group to find, cut and deliver firewood to HtN clients.

Special Events (3.2 hours per client) In August we participated in (and received funds from) Vino and Notes and the Pro-Challenge B I cycling event. We also started work on the winter ball fundraiser.

Administration (8.7 hours per client), including facilities, finance, personnel manning the phones and staffing the office.

And, managing the organization, Executive Director Vince Scarlata and the board of directors, (2.2 hours per client).

In total, 21.3 August volunteer hours per client, the equivalent of six full-time employees. Or, another way to look at it, for the 90 minutes we interfaced directly with the client in August, the volunteer spent an additional 20 hours making this service possible. Thanks for your contributions!

WHO WE ARE

Help the Needy is a charitable, non-profit 501C(3) organization that since 1981 has been dedicated to helping people overcome difficulties not of their own making. These difficulties are usually the result of a shortage of money. The shortage of money can be caused by a great variety of problems including loss of job, transportation problems, medical problems, or family crisis. Help the Needy also advocates for the poor and at-risk at all levels.

Message from the President



God works in mysterious ways. I recently was watching one of my favorite shows, CBS Sunday Morning. It's a light news and information show on at 7 to 8:30 every Sunday morning. Well, this particular Sunday, they were talking about what items lead to a longer life. Since I just had a major birthday, I was all ears.

One item that was important to living longer was social relationships. In other words, having friends, being with partners and helping others all promoted not only longer lives but more enriching ones also.

Who knew that volunteering for Help The Needy would increase your life span? I can only speak for myself, but when I take the focus off myself and place it on helping others, many, if not all, of my minor aches and pains go away, and those items that were so irritating to me a few minutes ago seem trivial now.

So here's the deal. If you know of someone who needs more social interaction in their lives, or if you find yourself less than satisfied with what is happening right now in your life, Help the Needy would love to help you by letting you volunteer with us. People needs are not only monetary; sometimes we just need a friend. And, boy, do we have some neat people working here who are loving and make great friends.

So join us and live longer... a nice benefit, courtesy of God and Help the Needy.

Bob Taylor
President

HtN Happenings

Help the Needy 4th-of-July Bash

It was a great day to celebrate our independence. Crowds were jubilant, kids were excited, and Help the Needy was there to give away a free family weekend in a local cabin donated by Maggie Dunton of Property Management Specialists, complete with a free horseback ride donated by Dunn's Horse & Mule Company of Guffey. A result of our efforts included thirty-six new potential volunteers/donors and more than enough in donations to cover the cost of the event. Thanks to Bob Taylor, Steve Jeroslow, Jeanette Zupancic, Lisa Keuhlen, Teresa Miceli and Vince Scarlata for their time volunteering for the event.



Steve and Vince deep in discussion at the 4th of July Event



Steve and Vince being knighted at the 4th of July event.



What an Event!

August 5th was a spectacular day, with the Vino & Notes event headlining the day. Help the Needy was the beneficiary of the event thanks to Jamie and Ben Caperton, owners of The Cellar Door, and event sponsor, Park State Bank & Trust. Profits from the event in the amount of \$6,500 were handed to Vince Scarlata, executive director of Help the Needy, by Tony Perry, president of Park State Bank & Trust and Ben Caperton. Forty-three volunteers worked the event, the largest number of volunteers ever for a Help the Needy benefit. We at Help the Needy are so thankful for all the hard work on the part of the volunteers, and for Jamie, Ben and Tony's generosity. We could never function without such great community involvement. Help the Needy was surely helped on August 5th so that we may continue to help others in our community. It's a beautiful thing!



Vince Scarlata, left, executive director of Help the Needy, is pleasantly surprised by the \$6,500 donation to the organization that helps people in financial emergencies. The donation is a portion of the proceeds from the Vino & Notes wine and jazz festival. Pictured with Scarlata is Ben Caperton, right, co-founder of the festival and Tony Perry, board member of Help the Needy and president of Park State Bank & Trust, the title sponsor of the festival. Photo by Pat Hill

Message from the Executive Director



I have been Help the Needy's (HtN) volunteer Executive Director for one year now, and I'd like to impart my thoughts on the last 12 months. Volunteering was new to me when I took the position. I didn't know what to expect regarding non-profit organization and volunteer management. Yes, I had managed teams throughout my career, but they were usually highly paid personnel in sales, support and marketing functions. They were expected to do their jobs well. At HtN I found that our many volunteers, as many as 150, are even more dedicated than my paid staff had been. I have been humbled and in awe of these great people. I only wish I could live up to their standards of dedication and commitment. I am so lucky to be among them. I learn from them every day. I am truly blessed. As I move into my next year's efforts, I hope to have the strength to be more like our great volunteers. I pray every night that God gives me that strength.

Vince Scarlata
Executive Director